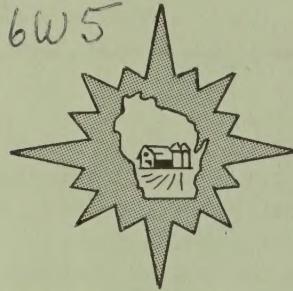


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WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WISCONSIN FARM REPORTER
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Farm Reporter

VOL. VII, NO. 1

PROCUREMENT
CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

- Dairy
- Crops
- Livestock

November 1974

Cream of the News

Milk prices received by Wisconsin farmers in October were up for the third straight month but have only recovered about a third of the decline earlier in the year.

Fertilizer consumption in Wisconsin during the year ended June 30th showed an increase of 15 percent from the previous year.

Feeder pig prices in Wisconsin increased slightly from July to October after having declined substantially for over a year.

Milk production on Wisconsin farms during October was up 3 percent from a year ago and marked the third month in a row of higher output.

Cold storage stocks of meat and dairy products in the Nation at the end of October were above last year.

The index of prices received for Wisconsin farm products as of mid-October was up 3 percent from a month earlier due to higher prices for milk, eggs, and crops.

Based on tests of corn samples sent in by farmers, the moisture content of Wisconsin's corn in mid-October was the highest since 1965.

Wholesale prices of dairy products increased from September to October.

Cheese and butter production in the Nation during September was above a year earlier and weekly estimates for October indicate a continuation of higher butter production but cheese output may be lower.

Corn plant population in Wisconsin and most Corn Belt States increased in 1974 but the average row width showed little change.

Prices of barrows and gilts at the St. Paul market increased \$3.00 a hundredweight from September to October but were below last year.

Red meat production in Wisconsin during September was 18 percent above a year ago.

We are Thankful...

At Thanksgiving season we should all pause to give thanks for the blessings of the past year. Although this has been a difficult crop season in many respects, we should still be thankful for what has been harvested. Some nations are not as fortunate in regard to their food supplies. The World Food Conference held recently focused attention on the shortage of food in parts of the world.

We are thankful to farmers and other persons engaged in Wisconsin agriculture for taking time from their busy schedules to provide the basic data used in making estimates of agricultural production. Their service is invaluable for monitoring the food situation and planning for the future production of food. May the holiday season be a period of peace and contentment in the world and may the approaching New Year bring prosperity to all nations.

Sincerely yours,

H. M. Walters

H. M. Walters
Agricultural Statistician
in Charge

MILK PRODUCTION REMAINS ABOVE A YEAR AGO

Milk production on Wisconsin farms during October totaled 1,412 million pounds, up 3 percent from a year ago and the third straight month of higher production. Output of milk increased 1 percent from September to October compared with a gain of 2 percent for that period in 1973. Production per cow averaged 790 pounds in October, up 30 pounds from the previous year. In the first 10 months of 1974, Wisconsin's milk production was 1 percent under January - October 1973.

222-11-74

WISCONSIN STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE

A Cooperative Function of

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture
Division of Administration

United States Department of Agriculture
Statistical Reporting Service

The Nation's milk production during October was 2 percent above a year earlier but for the first 10 months of this year was about 1 percent below that period in 1973. The October milk-feed price ratio was 25 percent under last year.

Milk Production

Selected States	October 1973	October 1974	Jan.-Oct. 1974	Change from last year	
				October	Jan.-Oct.
	Million pounds			Percent	
Wisconsin . . .	1,369	1,412	15,574	+ 3	- 1
Minnesota . . .	615	625	7,993	+ 2	n. c.
Iowa . . .	288	272	3,115	- 6	- 11
New York . . .	747	786	8,306	+ 5	+ 1
Pennsylvania . .	540	552	5,708	+ 2	+ 1
California . . .	860	891	8,951	+ 4	+ 3
Other states . .	4,520	4,595	47,578	+ 2	- 1
United States . .	8,939	9,133	97,225	+ 2	- 1

MILK PRICES UP IN OCTOBER

Prices received by Wisconsin farmers for all milk sold in October are expected to average \$7.47 a hundredweight. This would be a gain of 20 cents from September but 53 cents below October last year. Milk prices in Wisconsin have increased 70 cents a hundredweight in the past three months after having declined nearly \$2.00 a hundredweight from

Milk Prices 1/

Selected States	August 1974		September price per cwt.			October 1974 price per cwt. 2/
	Average test	Price per cwt.	1973	1974	74/73 change	
	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars
Milk for all uses						
Wisconsin . . .	3.68	6.88	7.48	7.27	- 3	7.47
Minnesota . . .	3.49	6.54	7.26	6.80	- 6	6.95
Iowa . . .	3.52	6.68	7.32	7.02	- 4	7.26
New York . . .	3.54	8.00	8.50	8.35	- 2	8.60
California . . .	3.42	8.00	6.87	8.35	+ 22	8.60
United States . .	3.54	7.65	7.87	8.00	+ 2	8.21
Wisconsin utilization						
Market milk . . .	3.60	7.10	7.61	7.45	- 2	xxx
Manufacturing milk	3.63	6.58	7.30	7.03	- 4	xxx
Creameries . . .	3.62	6.60	7.33	7.00	- 5	xxx
Cheese factories .	3.63	6.58	7.30	7.04	- 4	xxx
Varied prod. plants	3.62	6.56	7.33	7.00	- 5	xxx

1/Preliminary average buying prices received for milk of average test. They differ from basic buying prices which are for 3.5% milk. 2/Based on preliminary information for milk of average test.

— PUBLISHED MONTHLY —

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March through July.

Milk prices in September averaged \$7.27 a hundredweight, up 39 cents from August but 21 cents under the previous year. Milkfat content for September averaged 3.74 percent compared with 3.70 percent a year earlier.

Producers for the Grade A market received an average of \$7.45 a hundredweight in September, an increase of 35 cents from the previous month but 16 cents below September 1973. Manufacturing grade milk, at \$7.03 a hundredweight for September, was 45 cents above August but down 27 cents from a year ago. The spread between market and manufacturing grade milk was 42 cents in September compared with 31 cents in September 1973.

Wisconsin 3.5 Test Milk Prices 1/

Utilization	Sept. 1973	August 1974	Sept. 1974 2/	Change from last year
Dollars per cwt.				
Milk for all uses . . .	7.08	6.67	6.80	- 4
Market milk . . .	7.20	6.90	6.99	- 3
Manufacturing milk . . .	6.89	6.35	6.55	- 5
Creameries . . .	6.97	6.38	6.53	- 6
American cheese plants . . .	6.86	6.31	6.53	- 5
Varied products plants . . .	6.93	6.34	6.52	- 6
Federal Order Markets Chicago Regional Base Zone . . .	7.30	6.97	7.16	- 2

1/Computed equivalents. 2/Preliminary.

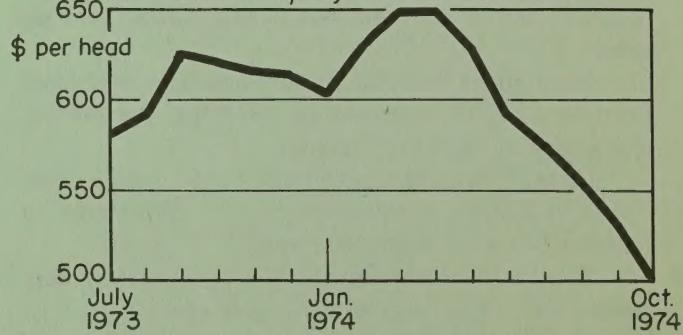
PRICES RECEIVED INDEX HIGHER

The index of prices received for all farm products sold in Wisconsin for the month ending in mid-October was up 14 points (3 percent) from a month earlier. Higher prices for milk, eggs, and crops offset declines for most livestock items except hogs.

Milk cow prices continued to decline for the sixth consecutive month. Milk cows for herd replacements averaged \$500.00 per head in mid-October, a decline of \$30.00 from September and \$120.00 lower than October 1973. Milk cows have declined \$150.00 since April and are now the lowest since February 1973.

MILK COWS: Price per Head

Wisconsin, July 1973 - October 1974



Hog prices in Wisconsin averaged \$36.70 a hundredweight as of October 15, an increase of \$3.60 from the previous month but \$3.20 under a year ago.

Steers and heifers averaged \$30.50 a hundredweight in October, down \$1.00 from September and \$11.50 below last year. Slaughter cows, at \$19.00 a hundredweight for October, were \$3.20 lower than a month earlier and \$15.00 under October 1973.

Calves averaged \$34.90 a hundredweight in mid-October, a decline of \$1.10 from September and the lowest for October since 1968. A year ago calves averaged \$67.00 a hundredweight.

Sheep declined 90 cents from September to October. At \$5.60 a hundredweight for October, sheep were almost \$6.00 below last year. The mid-October lamb price of \$31.50 a hundredweight was \$1.90 less than the previous month but \$2.70 above October 1973.

Egg prices averaged slightly more than 49 cents a dozen as of October 15, up nearly 8½ cents from September but about 9 cents below a year ago. Turkeys, at 31 cents a pound liveweight in October, were up 3 cents from a month earlier but 7 cents under last year.

Prices Received by Wisconsin Farmers

Commodity	Unit	October 15, 1972	October 15, 1973	Sept. 15, 1974	October 15, 1974
Dollars					
Milk cows	Head	480.00	620.00	530.00	500.00
Steers and heifers	Cwt.	32.70	42.00	31.50	30.50
Cows	Cwt.	26.00	34.00	22.20	19.00
Calves	Cwt.	49.50	67.00	36.00	34.90
Hogs	Cwt.	27.40	39.90	33.10	36.70
Sheep	Cwt.	6.50	11.50	6.50	5.60
Lambs	Cwt.	27.00	28.80	33.40	31.50
Chickens 1/	Lb.	.100	.220	.105	.105
Turkeys	Lb.	.220	.380	.280	.310
Eggs	Doz.	.290	.580	.408	.492
Corn	Bu.	1.17	2.15	3.43	3.58
Wheat	Bu.	1.73	4.06	3.89	4.35
Oats	Bu.	.75	1.15	1.49	1.59
Soybeans	Bu.	3.05	5.70	7.05	8.10
Alfalfa hay, baled	Ton	30.00	29.00	30.00	31.50

1/Excludes broilers.

Corn prices increased to a record high of \$3.58 a bushel as of mid-October, a gain of 15 cents from September and \$1.43 higher than October 1973. Soybeans averaged \$8.10 a bushel in October, up \$1.05 from the previous month and \$2.40 more than a year ago.

Oats averaged a record high of \$1.59 a bushel on October 15, an increase of 10 cents from September and 44 cents above last year. Wheat, at \$4.35 a bushel in October, was 46 cents higher than a month earlier and 29 cents more than October 1973.

Baled alfalfa hay averaged \$31.50 a ton in mid-October, a gain of \$1.50 from September and \$2.50 greater than a year ago.

WHOLESALE DAIRY PRICES INCREASE

Wholesale prices of dairy products increased from September to October. Cheddar cheese in 40 pound blocks averaged nearly 78½ cents a pound at Wisconsin primary markets during October. This was an increase of 2 cents from September but 5¾ cents under a year ago.

Wholesale prices of Swiss cheese, Wisconsin State Brand, averaged over \$1.02 a pound for October. Swiss cheese prices increased 1½ cents a pound from a month earlier and were 11¼ cents above last year.

The 92-score butter price at the New York market averaged 70.63 cents a pound in October, a gain of 1¼ cents from the previous month.

Wholesale Dairy Prices

Commodity	October 1973	September 1974	October 1974 1/
Butter, 92-score, New York, pound . . .	2/	69.38¢	70.63¢
Cheese, Cheddars, Wisconsin primary markets, 40 lb. blocks, pound 3/ . . .	84.22¢	76.50¢	78.48¢
Cheese, Swiss, Wisconsin State Brand, block pound 3/	91.00¢	100.75¢	102.25¢
Evaporated milk, North Central States, case, 48-14½ oz. cans, range	\$10.65-10.93	\$11.70-12.49	\$ - - -
Nonfat dry milk solids, spray, Chicago area, pound	50.82¢	56.93¢	56.91¢

1/Preliminary estimates. 2/Not available. 3/Selling prices, f.o.b. at Wisconsin assembly points.

CHEESE AND BUTTER PRODUCTION ABOVE LAST YEAR

Production of cheese and butter in Wisconsin and the Nation during September was well above a year earlier. Wisconsin creameries churned 12.6 million pounds of butter in September, up 41 percent from last year when production was the lowest for September since 1948.

The Nation's butter production in September was 28 percent higher than a year ago. In addition to the increase shown by Wisconsin, output of butter was up 19 percent in Minnesota, 5 percent in Iowa, and 31 percent in other states.

Cheese production in the Nation during September was 13 percent above the previous year. Increases by varieties were American 9 percent, Italian 16 percent, Swiss 43 percent, and all other cheese except Brick and Muenster 15 per-

Current Dairy Products Estimates

Item and area	Sept. 1973	Sept. 1974	Jan.-Sept. 1974	Change from last year	
				Sept.	Jan.-Sept.
1,000 pounds					
BUTTER					
Wisconsin	8,985	12,640	147,510	+ 41	+ 5
Minnesota	12,874	15,275	178,680	+ 19	+ 2
Iowa	3,204	3,350	32,710	+ 5	- 36
Other states	26,072	34,113	364,839	+ 31	+ 2
United States	51,135	65,378	723,739	+ 28	n. c.
CHEESE, AMERICAN					
Wisconsin	47,037	49,000	602,720	+ 4	+ 8
Minnesota	17,548	17,260	202,790	- 2	+ 14
Missouri	5,234	4,750	64,295	- 9	+ 13
Other states	43,447	52,372	597,029	+ 21	+ 22
United States	113,266	123,382	1,466,834	+ 9	+ 14
CHEESE, MISCELLANEOUS					
United States					
Swiss	10,689	15,268	140,387	+ 43	+ 7
Brick and Muenster	5,392	5,359	53,117	- 1	+ 1
Italian	41,033	47,797	444,872	+ 16	+ 6
All other	16,742	19,300	152,191	+ 15	+ 2
Total	73,856	87,724	790,567	+ 19	+ 5
ALL CHEESE					
United States	187,122	211,106	2,257,401	+ 13	+ 11
OTHER PRODUCTS					
Cottage Cheese					
United States					
Curd 1/	58,212	55,069	522,785	- 5	- 12
Creamed 2/	72,601	69,028	660,747	- 5	- 12
1,000 gallons					
Ice Cream					
Wisconsin	1,345	1,320	13,195	- 2	+ 6
Illinois	4,054	4,100	36,080	+ 1	+ 1
Iowa	693	815	6,735	+ 18	+ 5
Michigan	3,064	3,375	28,905	+ 10	+ 6
Minnesota	2,558	1,865	20,330	- 27	- 16
Other states	54,596	57,037	505,383	+ 4	+ 1
United States	66,310	68,512	610,628	+ 3	+ 1
Percent					

1/Includes cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese with a milkfat content of less than 4 percent. 2/Includes cheese with a milkfat content of 4 to 19 percent.

cent. Production of Brick and Muenster was down 1 percent from September 1973.

Wisconsin dairy plants manufactured 49 million pounds of American cheese in September, a gain of 4 percent from a year earlier. Although Minnesota was down 2 percent and Missouri declined 9 percent, production of American cheese in other states was 21 percent more than in September 1973.

Output of both cottage cheese curd and creamed cottage cheese in the Nation during September was down 5 percent from last year. The Nation's ice cream production for September was 3 percent above a year ago.

FERTILIZER CONSUMPTION HIGHER IN WISCONSIN

Fertilizer consumption in Wisconsin during the year ended June 30, 1974 was estimated at 1,040,029 tons, an increase of 15 percent from a year earlier. Fertilizer consumption represents all commercial fertilizer tonnages sold or shipped for farm and non-farm use as fertilizer. Materials used in the manufacture of registered mixes or for uses other than fertilizer are excluded.

Mixed fertilizer used in Wisconsin during the period ending June 30, 1973 totaled 427,394 tons. Mixtures accounted for 41 percent of the total fertilizer tonnage in 1973-74 compared with 44 percent a year earlier. The use of direct application primary plant nutrient materials increased 20 percent after having declined in the previous year. Primary nutrients (N, P₂O₅, and K₂O) usage totaled

Total Fertilizer, Consumption by Kind
Wisconsin, Years ended June 30, 1970-74 1/

Year	Mixtures	Direct-application material 2/		Total	
		Primary nutrient	Secondary and micro-nutrient	Quantity	Change from previous year
Tons					
1970 . . .	384,846	461,579	294	846,719	+ 2
1971 . . .	411,874	488,931	1,056	901,861	+ 7
1972 . . .	407,386	533,665	1,138	942,189	+ 4
1973 . . .	398,665	507,689	1,379	907,733	- 4
1974 3/ . . .	427,394	610,399	2,236	1,040,029	+ 15

1/Excludes liming materials. 2/Excludes materials used in commercial mixtures.

3/Preliminary.

610,399 tons in 1973-74. Secondary and micro-nutrient materials reported for direct application amounted to 2,236 tons, up 62 percent from 1972-73.

CORN PLANT POPULATION HIGHER IN 1974

Corn plant population in Wisconsin and most Corn Belt States showed an increase in 1974. Information on corn development and yields is collected monthly from August through November by the Statistical Reporting Service as part of the corn objective yield program. Counts and measurements are made by trained enumerators during visits to random plots in a scientific sampling of fields in selected states. The trend in recent years has shown increases in plant population per acre although in 1973 most Corn Belt States showed slight to moderate declines. However in 1974 the plant population in both the Eastern and Western Corn Belt States was up 1½ percent from the previous year. Based on a stalk count in 135 sample plots, Wisconsin's corn plant population in 1974 was 18,500 plants per acre compared with 18,300 for 1973.

Plant Population per Acre of Corn for Grain 1/

States	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Ohio	18,200	16,900	18,200	18,200	18,900
Indiana	17,900	17,000	18,300	17,900	18,700
Illinois	18,100	18,000	19,100	19,100	18,600
Michigan	18,400	16,500	18,500	16,900	16,900
Wisconsin	18,800	18,100	19,400	18,300	18,500
Minnesota	18,400	18,600	19,000	18,300	18,200
Iowa	18,000	18,100	19,200	18,900	18,600
Missouri	14,600	14,800	15,300	15,300	15,500
South Dakota	12,200	11,900	12,800	12,600	12,800
Nebraska	16,400	16,000	16,900	15,400	16,400
Kansas	15,900	17,400	17,000	17,500	18,000

1/Population based on stalk count in sample plots selected for objective yield determination.

Measurements of row spacing of corn for grain in Wisconsin showed little change in the average row width from 1973 to 1974. The State's average row width for 1974 was 37.2 inches compared with 37.3 inches in 1973 and 1972. Other neighboring Corn Belt States had narrower spacings between corn rows. The most popular row width was between 36.6 and 38.5 inches in most of the states although Wisconsin had a slightly larger percentage of its sample plots with a row width of 38.6 to 40.5 inches in 1974.

Measured Row Spacing of Corn for Grain 1/

State and year	Row width groups (inches)					Average width
	34.5 & less	34.6 - 36.5	36.6 - 38.5	38.6 - 40.5	40.6 & greater	
Percent of samples						
Wisconsin						Inches
1970	13.1	11.7	35.2	29.7	10.3	37.4
1971	13.5	11.7	38.0	27.6	9.2	37.4
1972	18.1	9.7	31.3	31.2	9.7	37.3
1973	18.0	12.5	27.1	35.5	6.9	37.3
1974	16.3	13.3	31.1	31.9	7.4	37.2
Percent of samples						
Other States 2/						
Indiana	27.3	17.3	39.9	14.9	.6	35.5
Illinois	30.1	9.3	41.7	15.7	3.2	35.8
Iowa	23.4	5.2	40.7	23.4	7.3	36.6
Michigan	51.5	9.1	24.3	11.1	4.0	34.0
Minnesota	26.3	13.2	40.7	17.8	2.0	35.8

1/Spacings based on row measurements in sample plots selected for objective yield determinations. 2/Data for 1974.

1/Preliminary.

BUTTER PRODUCTION TO CONTINUE ABOVE LAST YEAR

Weekly estimates of butter production for October indicate that output will continue above a year earlier in Wisconsin and the Nation. Churnings for October could be up 14 percent in the Nation but butter production for the first nine months of 1974 showed little change from the corresponding period last year. Wisconsin's butter output during October will also be higher than a year ago. Creameries in the State churned 5 percent more butter in the first three quarters of this year than in January - September 1973.

Based on weekly estimates, the Nation's American cheese production for October may show little change from a year earlier after having increased 14 percent during January through September. Wisconsin's output of American cheese dropped below a year ago during October after an 8 percent increase in the first nine months of 1974.

Recent Changes in Butter and Cheese Output

Periods	Butter			American Cheese		
	United States		Wisconsin	United States		Wisconsin
	Production 1974	Change from last year	Change from last year	Production 1974	Change from last year	Change from last year
September . . .	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent
Sept.	65,378	+ 28	+ 41	123,382	+ 9	+ 4
Jan.-Sept. . . .	723,739	n. c.	+ 5	1,466,834	+ 14	+ 8
Weeks ending . . .						
Oct. 10 . . .	16,030	+ 14	+ 14	29,700	+ 13	+ 16
Oct. 17 . . .	16,380	+ 18	+ 15	27,800	+ 2	- 5
Oct. 24 . . .	16,300	+ 11	+ 6	26,830	- 5	- 10
Oct. 31 . . .	16,360	+ 15	+ 12	26,930	- 7	- 15
Total	65,070	+ 14	xxx	111,260	n. c.	xxx

CORN MOISTURE HIGHEST SINCE 1965

The average moisture content of corn as of mid-October was 34.9 percent. This was 6.1 percent above a year earlier and the highest since the 36.7 percent average in 1965 when records on corn moisture were started.

The corn moisture survey was conducted with the cooperation of crop-weather reporters who mailed in corn samples to be tested. There was a great deal of variation in the moisture content of the individual samples this year. The moisture percent of the samples returned varied from a low of 16.5 percent to a high of 61.8 percent. Of the past ten

Average Corn Moisture by Districts Wisconsin, Mid-October 1969-74

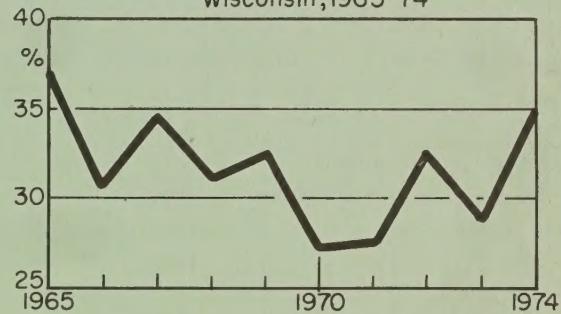
District	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	Percent moisture	
Northern 1/ . . .	33	31	33	40	29	40		
West Central . . .	32	27	30	32	30	29		
Central	34	28	27	34	27	34		
East Central . . .	33	28	28	31	29	32		
Southwest	34	27	26	34	30	39		
South Central . . .	29	26	27	30	28	38		
Southeast	34	28	25	34	29	32		
State Average . . .	32.4	27.2	27.5	32.5	28.8	34.9		
High	52.0	40.8	47.2	64.7	41.0	61.8		
Low	21.0	17.6	17.2	19.0	19.2	16.5		

1/Includes Northwest, North Central, and Northeast districts.

years, only 1972 had a wider range in the moisture content of corn samples tested. Corn in all areas of the State except the west central had higher corn moisture in 1974 than in 1973. An unusually early killing frost at the beginning of September in the west central area contributed to a reduction of corn moisture there.

The October 1 Corn Objective Yield survey indicated that corn maturity was far behind last year due to delays in planting and below normal growing weather during much of the season. Only 66 percent of the sample fields reached the dent stage by October 1 compared with 86 percent in 1973. The percentage of fields in dent by October 1 in 1972 was 90 percent and in 1971 was 88 percent.

CORN MOISTURE: Mid-October Wisconsin, 1965-74



MEAT STOCKS REMAIN ABOVE LAST YEAR

Cold storage stocks of meat in the Nation at the end of October were 13 percent above a year ago. Beef stocks were up 16 percent and pork in cold storage was 19 percent greater than on October 31, 1973.

Stocks of beef amounted to 364 million pounds at the end of October, a gain of 17 million pounds from a month earlier and 49 million pounds above last year. Pork stocks in cold storage totaled 266 million pounds on October 31, an increase of 17 million pounds from the previous month and more than 42 million pounds above a year earlier.

Cold Storage Stocks of Meat United States

Commodity	Oct. 31, 1972	Oct. 31, 1973	Sept. 30, 1974	Oct. 31, 1974	Change from last year	1,000 pounds		Percent
Beef:								
Frozen	315,493	301,278	331,312	346,195	+ 15			
In cure and cured	11,170	14,020	15,792	18,110	+ 29			
Total	326,663	315,298	347,104	364,305	+ 16			
Pork:								
Frozen	192,781	208,602	234,137	252,290	+ 21			
In cooler	16,073	14,998	14,832	13,718	- 9			
Total	208,854	223,600	248,969	266,008	+ 19			
Other meats and meat products:								
Veal, frozen	10,486	9,029	11,549	11,448	+ 27			
Lamb and mutton, frozen	18,226	15,517	14,284	15,103	- 3			
Canned meats in cooler:								
Hams	61,885	65,574	57,673	57,113	- 13			
Other meats	15,553	14,234	13,202	11,977	- 16			
Total, all meats	641,667	643,252	692,781	725,954	+ 13			

NOVEMBER CROP REPORT

Harvesting of Wisconsin's crops for 1974 was mostly completed by mid-November except for corn which was high in moisture content. About 25 percent of the corn for grain remained to be picked as of November 18th. The southern area of the State had the most corn remaining for harvest. Some of the wet corn may be left in the fields over winter. Yields and quality of corn in 1974 were reduced by late plantings, dry weather, below normal growing degree days for most of the season, and early fall frosts. Production of corn for grain in Wisconsin for 1974 is estimated at 157 million bushels, down 9 percent from 1973. The estimated yield of 75 bushels per acre for 1974 would be 8 bushels below last year and the poorest since 1964.

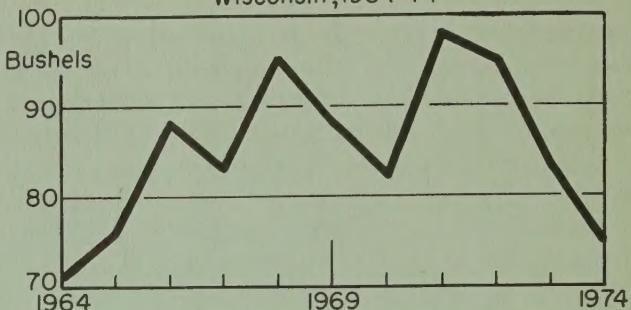
The early fall frost also reduced Wisconsin's tobacco acreage for 1974. Harvested acreage of tobacco is estimated at 9,400 acres, down 800 acres from 1973. Production of tobacco is estimated at 17.6 million pounds, a decline of

Rainfall in Inches, by Districts, Wisconsin

Districts	Month of October			Since April 1		
	1973	1974	Normal	1973	1974	Normal
N. W.	3.1	2.5	2.1	25.8	22.5	24.8
N. C.	1.9	2.2	2.3	25.9	22.6	25.2
N. E.	2.8	2.0	2.2	25.9	22.9	23.1
W. C.	2.0	2.3	2.2	28.7	20.5	24.2
C.	2.5	2.1	2.2	27.4	21.2	23.5
E. C.	4.0	2.0	2.1	25.6	21.0	21.1
S. W.	2.0	2.9	2.3	28.3	24.8	25.0
S. C.	3.4	3.3	2.2	28.0	24.2	23.4
S. E.	3.7	2.6	2.2	26.0	23.0	22.0

CORN: Yield per Acre

Wisconsin, 1964-74



7 percent from last year. The 1974 potato crop is expected to be up 15 percent due to a record yield of 270 hundred-weight per acre. Harvested acreage of potatoes was estimated at 49,000 acres, an increase of 2,000 from 1973. Practically all potatoes were either in storage or shipped to market by the first of November as field conditions were dry for digging.

Cranberry production for 1974 was estimated at a record 840,000 barrels. Cool weather in August and September kept berries from sizing better and the crop did not reach earlier expectations of 900,000 barrels. Color and quality of cranberries were good and the harvest was mostly completed by November.

Some rains in late October and the first half of November improved fall plowing conditions which had been limited by dry fall weather. The rains were also helpful for winter grains and new seedlings whose growth was below normal because of earlier dryness.

Crop Summary of Wisconsin for November 1, 1974

Crop	Acreage			Yield per acre			Unit	Production		
	1972	1973	1974 (prelimi- nary)	1972	1973	1974 (prelimi- nary)		1972	1973	1974 (prelimi- nary)
Thousands										Thousands
FIELD CROPS										
Corn for grain	2,143	2,090	2,090	95.0	83.0	75.0	Bu.	203,585	173,470	156,750
Oats	1,350	1,370	1,400	55.0	41.0	62.0	Bu.	74,250	56,170	86,800
Barley	22	21	20	45.0	37.0	46.0	Bu.	990	777	920
Rye	10	9	9	21.0	19.5	23.0	Bu.	210	176	207
Wheat (all)	29	27	79	31.1	33.0	37.1	Bu.	901	890	2,930
Winter	20	16	56	32.0	35.0	40.0	Bu.	640	560	2,240
Spring	9	11	23	29.0	30.0	30.0	Bu.	261	330	690
Soybeans for beans	145	241	225	28.0	25.0	24.0	Bu.	4,060	6,025	5,400
Potatoes (fall)	45.5	47.0	49.0	253	245	270	Cwt.	11,530	11,515	13,230
Tobacco (all)	10.8	10.2	9.4	1,731	1,859	1,875	Lb.	18,691	18,963	17,626
Type 54	5.0	4.9	4.7	1,685	1,950	1,925	Lb.	8,425	9,555	9,048
Type 55	5.8	5.3	4.7	1,770	1,775	1,825	Lb.	10,266	9,408	8,578
HAY AND FORAGE										
Hay (all)	3,920	3,950	3,930	2.60	2.69	2.75	Ton	10,203	10,622	10,803
Alfalfa and mixture	2,950	2,970	3,000	2.85	2.90	2.95	Ton	8,408	8,613	8,850
All other	970	980	930	1.85	2.05	2.10	Ton	1,795	2,009	1,953
VEGETABLE CROPS										
Carrots 1/	1.7	1.4	1.5	400	370	460	Cwt.	679	518	690
Cabbage 1/	3.8	2.3	2.4	315	280	210	Cwt.	1,204	644	504
Lettuce 1/ .....	.9	1.1	1.1	210	250	200	Cwt.	189	275	220
Mint for oil	4.5	5.5	8.5	30	31	41	Cwt.	135	173	350
Onions, commercial	1.5	1.4	1.3	250	280	270	Cwt.	375	392	351
For processing:										
Green lima beans	6.4	7.4	8.2	.82	.93	1.00	Ton 2/	5.3	6.9	8.2
Peas	122.2	123.2	145.7	1.34	.99	1.10	Ton 2/	163.8	122.0	160.3
Snap beans	45.5	55.7	69.0	2.67	2.47	2.20	Ton	121.5	137.6	151.8
Sweet corn	113.5	132.6	136.4	4.54	3.85	4.10	Ton	515.3	510.5	559.3
Cucumber for pickles	9.0	10.4	11.4	4.77	4.91	3.91	Ton	43.0	51.1	44.6
Beets for canning	4.5	6.6	7.8	14.00	9.18	10.40	Ton	63.0	60.6	81.1
FRUITS, ETC.										
Apples, commercial	—	—	—	—	—	—	Lb.	65,000	50,000	65,000
Tart cherries	—	—	—	—	—	—	Ton	4.6	2.4	3.7
Cranberries	—	—	—	—	—	—	Bbl.	805	756	840
Strawberries	1.4	1.4	1.3	23	27	29	Cwt.	32	38	38

1/Summer quarter acreage. 2/Shelled.

SEPTEMBER SLAUGHTER ABOVE YEAR AGO

Commercial slaughtering of cattle, calves, and hogs in Wisconsin during September was substantially higher than a year ago. Cattle slaughter numbered 109,000 head for September, up 14 percent from last year. Calf slaughter, at 25,500 head in September, was 68 percent greater than a year earlier. The 290,000 hogs butchered during September were 76,000 head or 36 percent above September 1973.

Average liveweight of animals slaughtered in September was lighter than a year ago. Cattle liveweight averaged 1,073 pounds, down 61 pounds from September 1973. Calves averaged 143 pounds liveweight in September, 27 pounds lighter than a year earlier. Hog liveweight, at 238 pounds for September, was 1 pound less than last year.

Because of the higher number of animals slaughtered in September, total red meat production of 107 million pounds was 18 percent more than a year ago. Output of beef was up 8 percent, pork production increased 35 percent, and the veal supply gained 41 percent.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter

Area	Number			Liveweight	
	September		Change from last year	September	
	1973	1974		1973	1974
	1,000 head		Percent	Million pounds	
Cattle					
Wisconsin	95.5	109.0	+ 14	108.3	117.0
United States 1/ . .	2,608.9	3,085.0	+ 18	2,728.3	3,125.2
Calves					
Wisconsin	15.2	25.5	+ 68	2.6	3.6
United States 1/ . .	163.3	285.6	+ 75	43.4	81.6
Hogs					
Wisconsin	214.0	290.0	+ 36	51.1	69.0
United States 1/ . .	5,656.8	6,877.3	+ 22	1,353.2	1,666.6
Sheep and lambs					
Wisconsin . . . . .	.7	.6	- 14	.069	.057
United States 1/ . .	819.8	869.1	+ 6	85.3	88.5

1/Excludes Alaska.

CHEESE AND BUTTER STOCKS HIGHER

Cold storage stocks of butter in the Nation at the end of October were up 23 percent from the previous year while

Cold Storage Stocks of Butter and Cheese

Commodity	October 31, 1972	October 31, 1973	October 31, 1974	Change from last year	1,000 pounds		Percent
					UNITED STATES		
Butter	154,740	67,546	82,997	+ 23			
Cheese, American	314,175	301,136	442,846	+ 47			
Cheese, Swiss	8,225	15,581	12,422	- 20			
Cheese, all other	56,905	54,332	59,459	+ 9			
Cheese, total	379,305	371,049	514,727	+ 39			
	WISCONSIN						
Butter	6,204	3,268	5,359	+ 64			
Cheese, American	201,018	177,107	250,393	+ 41			
	GOVERNMENT STOCKS*						
Butter	138,839	41,044	21,067	- 49			
Cheese, American	303	359	1,183	+ 230			

*Included in above totals.

cheese stocks showed an increase of 39 percent. Although Government owned stocks of butter were only half of a year ago, the total butter stocks of 83 million pounds were 15 million pounds more than on October 31, 1973.

Swiss cheese in cold storage at the end of October was down 20 percent from a year earlier but stocks of American cheese were up 47 percent and all other cheese increased 9 percent.

Manufacturers' Stocks of Other Dairy Products United States

Commodity	Sept. 30, 1972	Sept. 30, 1973	Sept. 30, 1974	Change from last year
1,000 pounds				Percent
Dried whole milk	5,394	7,321	10,791	+ 47
Dried skim milk	65,933	87,540	169,483	+ 94
Dried buttermilk	3,325	4,646	9,435	+ 103
Condensed milk and evaporated milk (case goods) 1/ . .	143,838	95,579	153,537	+ 61

1/Combined to avoid disclosing individual plant operations.

FEEDER PIG PRICES SHOW SLIGHT GAIN

Feeder pig prices in Wisconsin increased slightly from July to October after having declined for the previous four quarters. Wisconsin farmers reported paying an average of \$18.20 in October for a feeder pig averaging 41 pounds. This was \$1.00 higher than in July but well below the October 1973 average of \$32.10 per feeder pig.

Wisconsin Feeder Pig Prices and Weights 1/

Year	January	April	July	October
Dollars per head				
1965	10.50	12.10	13.00	15.15
1966	20.65	20.00	16.60	16.30
1967	14.50	14.75	15.20	14.90
1968	13.70	15.40	15.10	15.20
1969	14.00	16.40	17.80	19.00
1970	21.50	24.50	18.80	12.60
1971	9.35	12.05	12.80	14.30
1972	18.50	21.70	23.30	23.50
1973	24.80	30.90	34.50	32.10
1974	30.70	27.60	17.20	18.20
Pounds per head				
1965	42	40	40	40
1966	41	40	40	41
1967	42	41	41	41
1968	42	40	41	41
1969	41	41	41	41
1970	41	39	40	40
1971	41	40	40	41
1972	41	40	40	40
1973	41	40	40	40
1974	40	39	40	41

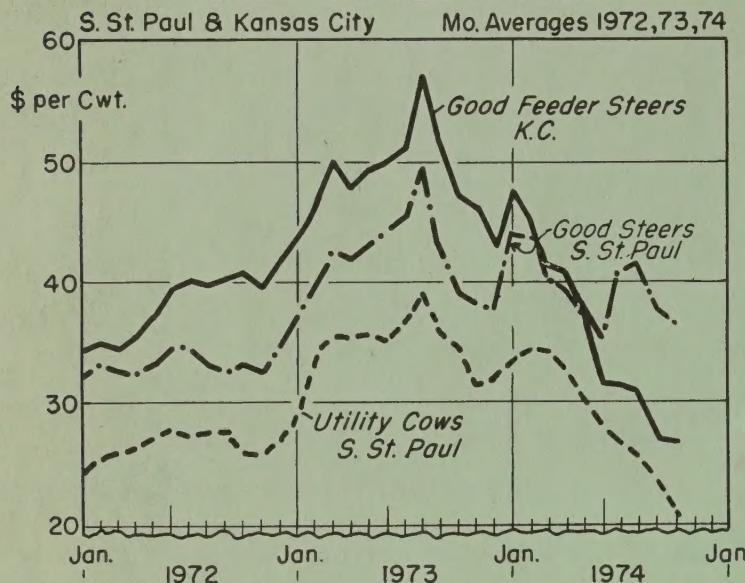
1/Prices paid by farmers and weights are average for the month as reported by Wisconsin Crop Correspondents.

BEEF PRICES LOWER

Prices of good grade fed steers at St. Paul and feeder steers at Kansas City declined from September to October as did utility cow prices at St. Paul. Feeder steers weighing between 600-700 pounds averaged \$27.03 a hundredweight at the Kansas City market during October, down 10 cents from September and the ninth consecutive month of lower prices for feeder steers. In October 1973 the average price of feeder steers at Kansas City was \$47.68 a hundredweight.

Good grade fed steers weighing between 900-1100 pounds averaged \$36.84 a hundredweight at the St. Paul market in October, a decline of \$1.05 from the previous month and \$2.76 under last year. Utility cows averaged \$20.79 a hundredweight at St. Paul for October, down \$2.87 from September and \$13.56 below a year ago.

BEEF CATTLE PRICES

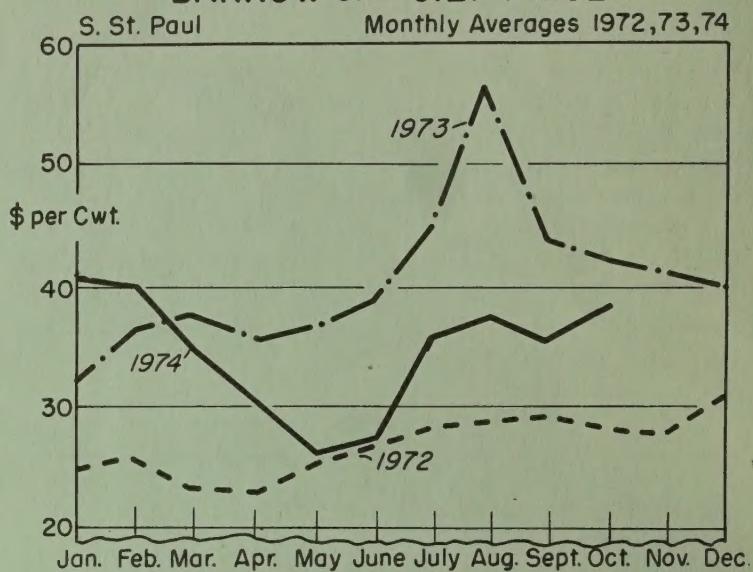


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HOG MARKET UP

Prices of barrows and gilts at the St. Paul market averaged \$38.67 a hundredweight during October, an increase of \$3.00 from a month earlier but \$3.63 less than October 1973. Since reaching a low for this year in May, barrows and gilts at St. Paul have gained \$12.45 a hundredweight.

BARROW and GILT PRICES



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